

Rec<sup>d</sup> Nov 4<sup>th</sup>  
Ans Nov 9  
Bischoe

Uxbridge Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 1870.

Dr George Engelmann: dear Sir:

I take the liberty of writing to you and asking you to do me a favor because I know of no one else to whom I could go. I have been studying structural botany during the past year under the private teaching of Prof de Bary of Halle Germany and before I came away he requested me to undertake the investigation of the Azolla, especially with reference to the mode of its germinating from the spores. Under his direction I went as far as could be gone with only dried herbarium fruit to examine. And he told me that when I returned to America I might perhaps obtain some of the living plants from you, so as by cultivating them to have under my hand all the different stages of growth.



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Mr. George Engelmann, Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 1890.

Dear Sir,  
I take the liberty of  
writing to you and asking you to do me a  
favor. I have been studying botanical  
history during the last year under the personal  
teaching of Prof. Dr. Hillebrand  
and before I can send the report that  
I undertake the investigation of the  
relationship of the species. Under his  
direction I want as far as possible to give not  
only about *Hebe* but also to examine, what  
he told me that when I returned to America  
I might perhaps obtain some of the living  
plants from you, so as by comparing them  
to have under my hand all the different  
stages of growth.



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Can you then send me a lot of these plants  
put up in such a way as to come alive to me?  
I will of course pay all expense incurred in  
the transportation. I would very much like  
it if I could get them this fall so that I  
might be ready for their first starting in the  
late winter or early spring.

If at the same time you would tell me in  
what sort of water they grow, and give me  
hints as to the most probable mode of successful  
cultivation you would be doing me a great  
favor. If there should be none of the plant  
growing near you, could you send one dried  
specimen to a brother of mine who is living  
in Tipton, Cedar County Iowa (Rev. George J.  
Bisbee) so that he might know how it looked  
and hunt for it in his neighborhood.

I am sorry to ask you to trouble yourself so  
much for a stranger, but as I said in the  
beginning I do not know of anybody else who can  
help me, and I am anxious to get about the  
work.

You will very much

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oblige by an early reply even if you can not  
send the plants.

yours most respectfully

Thomas S. Briscoe.

Uxbridge,

Mass.

GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS



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Dec<sup>d</sup> Oct 19  
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GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

321. George St.  
Cincinnati Oct 17/1891

Dr. Engelman,

Dear Sir,

You may remember receiving a letter from Uxbridge Mass, about a year ago, in which inquiry was made concerning a water plant "*Azolla Caroliniana*". You replied that the severe drought of the preceding summer had destroyed the plants in the locality where you had been accustomed to find them.

Are they to be found this fall in your vicinity? I have come to Cincinnati to live; and have searched this neighborhood carefully for the past month in the hope that I might find the plant, but as yet I have been unsuccessful. I want very



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much to have the living plant this  
winter growing in an aquarium, that  
I may study their mode of reproduction

Can you help me either by sending  
me plants from your vicinity or giving  
me the names of gentlemen who might  
be able to supply?

yours most respectfully,

Thomas D. Biscoe,

P.S. I will of course defray the expense  
of sending to me by express; if you can  
find the plants and will be so kind as  
to be at the trouble of gathering and packing  
them,



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Rec<sup>d</sup> Nov 25  
Answer by

Uxbridge Mass. Nov 21<sup>st</sup> 1872  
Dr George Engelman  
St Louis. Mo.

Dear Sir,

I am sorry to trouble you again about "*Azolla Caroliniana*" but I would like to know whether it can now be obtained in the localities near you which have been dried up in previous seasons?

Can you give me the addresses of any botanists who do know where it can be had? I have as yet been unable to get the least trace of the plant.

Do you know whether any European parties have succeeded in getting any living specimens? You spoke of having several applications from abroad.

yours most truly  
Thomas L. Biscoe



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